

Federal Advisory Committee (FAC) Membership Balance Plan

Please read the [Federal Advisory Committee Membership Balance Plan Guidance](#) prior to completing this form

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
(1) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE NAME <i>State the legal name of the FAC</i>
Yakima River Basin Conservation Advisory Group (CAG)
(2) AUTHORITY <i>Identify the authority for establishing the FAC</i>
<p>The original authority for the establishment of the CAG was provided by the Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project Act of October 31, 1994 (Public Law 103-434), and in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C., Appendix 2. Since 1999, the CAG has been established under general agency authority by the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary). The establishment of this committee is in the public interest in connection with the duties and responsibilities delegated to the Bureau of Reclamation by the Secretary.</p>
(3) MISSION/FUNCTION <i>Describe the mission/function of the FAC</i>
<p>The CAG provides recommendations to the Secretary and the State of Washington on the structure and implementation of the Yakima River Basin Water Conservation Program.</p> <p>The basin conservation program is structured to provide economic incentives with cooperative Federal, State, and local funding to stimulate the identification and implementation of structural and nonstructural cost-effective water conservation measures in the Yakima River Basin. Improvements in the efficiency of water delivery and use will result in improved streamflows for fish and wildlife and improve the reliability of water supplies for irrigation.</p>
(4) POINTS OF VIEW <i>Based on understanding the purpose of the FAC,</i> <i>(a) describe the process that will be used to ensure the committee is balanced, and identify the categories (e.g. individual expertise or represented interests) from which candidates will be considered;</i> <i>(b) consider indentifying an anticipated relative distribution of candidates across the categories; and</i> <i>(c) explain how a determination was made to appoint any individuals as Special Government Employees or Representative members</i>
<p>The original Act establishes the members of the CAG. The members of CAG will be comprised of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> One representative of the Yakima River Basin nonproratable irrigators. One representative of the Yakima River Basin proratable irrigators. One representative of the Yakama Nation or an appointed alternate. One representative of the environmental community. One representative of the Washington State University Agricultural Extension Service. One representative of the Department of Wildlife of the State of Washington. One individual who shall serve as the facilitator.

(5) OTHER BALANCE FACTORS

List any other factors your agency identifies as important in achieving a balanced FAC

The group, community or agency nominate the CAG representative for their particular interest to the Secretary for appointment.

(6) CANDIDATE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

Summarize the process intended to be used to identify candidates for the FAC, key resources expected to be tapped to identify candidates and the key persons (by position, not name) who will evaluate FAC balance. The summary should:

- (a) describe the process*
- (b) identify the agency key staff involved (by position, not name)*
- (c) briefly describe how FAC vacancies, if any, will be handled by the agency; and*
- (d) state the membership term limit of FAC members, if applicable*

The group, community or agency nominate a representative.

The nominated representative is vetted.

Formal letters of invitation to serve on CAG is extended by the Secretary.

Members serve for 3-year terms.

(7) SUBCOMMITTEE BALANCE

Subcommittees subject to FACA should either state that the process for determining FAC member balance on subcommittees is the same as the process for the parent FAC, or describe how it is different*

**This is relevant to those agencies that require their subcommittees to follow all FACA requirements.*

Subcommittees are not subject to FACA because they are not providing advice directly to a Federal Officer of the Department of the Interior. All advice or work products go directly to the parent Committee for review, consideration and deliberation at a FAC meeting before being submitted to the Department of the Interior through the DFO.

(8) OTHER

Provide any additional information that supports the balance of the FAC

None

(9) DATE PREPARED/UPDATED

Insert the actual date the Membership Balance Plan was initially prepared, along with the date(s) the Plan is updated

February 6, 2012